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Libya criticises media reports

NICOSIA (R) — Libya Monday accused Western journalists of imprecise and biased reporting of a visit to the site of a factory which the United States says is a chemical weapons plant. The official JANA news agency complained that journalists reported seeing no evidence to back Libya's denial of the U.S. description of the facility which Tripoli says is a pharmaceutical factory. JANA also objected to journalists writing that buildings seen by the press... don't help to recognise their nature (and) nothing is there that are weapons... is but talk lacking in precision and objectivity," JANA quoted its local affairs commentator as saying. Foreign journalists taken Sunday to the site of the factory at Rafta, 96 kilometers southwest of Tripoli, were refused entry to the factory for security reasons. JANA said Libyans were gathered to stage a sit-in in the factory and that some of the buildings seen by journalists were used for assembling cars. It added that a town is being built at Rafta and suggested that Libya had a right to defend the factory following what it called U.S. threats to bomb it.

Yemen asks Israel to 'test' PLO

ABU DHABI (AP) — Yemeni Foreign Minister Mr. Geoffrey Howe has urged Israel to test the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), and said that if there is a chance for peace, "they (Israel) should be involved in the PLO problem and they should be ready to see if there is a chance for peace in the peace process," Howe told a news conference. Howe, a member of the All-Abrahamic Council. His meeting with Saleh came shortly after North Yemen's president had a meeting with PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, who arrived here earlier in the day. Howe, a member of the All-Abrahamic Council, who is the PLO representative here, was quoted as saying that an important role to play in efforts to settle the Palestine problem. Any pressure that Britain can bring on Israel will be a great forward step. An official North Yemeni statement said that Foreign Minister Saleh expressed satisfaction with the British stand on the Palestine problem after his meeting with Howe.

(Continued on page 2)

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AROUND THE WORLD...

Israel submitted peace plan to U.S.

ABU DHABI (AP) — Israel has submitted a six-point Midest peace plan to Washington accepting United States and Soviet participation in a Middle East peace conference, the state-run Al Ittihad newspaper reported Monday. "The plan shows that Israel is ready to have the Arab-Israeli negotiations under the patronage of the United States and the Soviet Union," the paper said. Quoting unidentified Egyptian diplomatic sources, the paper said the Israeli plan was presented to U.S. President-elect George Bush, with a copy delivered to Egypt.

Arafat confers with N. Yemeni president

SANA (R) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader Yasser Arafat discussed Palestinian peace initiatives with North Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh Monday, Radio Sanaa said. The radio said Arafat, who arrived earlier in the day, discussed attempts to convene an international peace conference on the Middle East.

Saudi diplomat blames terrorists for killing

LONDON (R) — Saudi Arabia's charge d'affaires in Thailand, in remarks published Monday, blamed terrorists for the murder of a Saudi diplomat in Bangkok last Wednesday. Abdullah Al Shabib told Al-Azhar Al-Awsat newspaper by telephone from London that the crime was politically motivated and not linked to a dispute with local labour gang. Bangkok police have not ruled out a political motive for the shooting of Third Secretary Saleh Al Maliki. But they say they suspect that labour racketeers murdered Saleh, whose job included the processing of work permit applications.

Israel, China to step up contacts — Arens

PARIS (R) — Israel and China, which have never had diplomatic relations, have agreed to step up contacts through their United Nations' delegations, Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Arens said Monday. The decision was taken when Arens met Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen in Paris, where both are attending an international conference on banning chemical weapons. "The Chinese foreign minister suggested that we use the Chinese and Israeli delegations of the United Nations in New York as a channel of communications between the countries," Arens told a news conference.

Howe, Prince Philip to attend Hirohito funeral

LONDON (R) — Queen Elizabeth's husband, Prince Philip, and Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe will represent Britain at Japanese Emperor Hirohito's funeral next month, Buckingham Palace said, and the government said Monday. Palace sources said the queen acted on the advice of her ministers in deciding who should represent the royal family at the Feb. 24 funeral (see story on page 5).

Cyprus peace talks enter second phase

NICOSIA (AP) — Greek and Turkish Cypriot leaders met Monday for the second phase of United Nations-sponsored peace talks aimed at reunifying the island. President George Vassilios, the Greek Cypriot leader, and Raoul执掌, president of the breakaway Turkish Cypriot republic in northern Cyprus, conferred for one hour and 45 minutes. A brief U.N. statement said only that they agreed to meet again next Monday. It gave no details of Monday's discussions.

Armenian activist arrested in Azerbaijan

MOSCOW (R) — One of the founding members of a banned group pressing for the reunification of the Azerbaijani territory of Nagorno-Karabakh, with Armenia has been arrested, a senior Soviet legal official said. Viktor Il'yushkin told the Jan. 3 edition of the Azerbaijani Communist Party newspaper Bakinskiy Rabochiy that Igor Muradyan had been recently arrested in Azerbaijan. The newspaper reached Moscow Monday. Officials in Yerevan, capital of Armenia, announced Monday that four more Armenian activists had been detained for five days in connection with public order offences.

Polisario: Talks should lead to settlement

TUNIS (R) — The Polisario Front said Monday its peace talks with King Hassan of Morocco last week should lead to a comprehensive agreement in the Western Sahara, where Polisario guerrillas have been fighting Morocco since 1976. A Polisario statement said its executive committee, at a meeting Sunday, concluded that the meeting "opened the way to a qualitative development of the U.N. and Organization of African Unity process which must thus enter an active phase to reach a complete and definitive agreement." This would enable Morocco and the Polisario to go together to a referendum on self-determination for the people of the Western Sahara, the statement said.

Zaire unlikely to send Amin to Uganda

KAMPALA (R) — Zaire is unlikely to extradite former Ugandan leader Idi Amin to his homeland and wants him to return to Saudi Arabia, Zaire's ambassador to Uganda said Monday. Sources close to the Ugandan government said Sunday that a formal request for Amin's extradition from Zaire, which he entered illegally last week, will be presented soon by a special delegation. But the delegation, to be headed by the minister of state in the president's office, Kizza Besigye, has not yet left Kampala.

Iran: 18 groups seek recognition

MOSCOW (R) — Iran said Monday 18 political parties had so far applied for registration following a decision to expand political freedom. The Iranian news agency IRNA quoted Interior Minister Ali Akbar Mohammadi as saying the parties included the Association for the Defense of Freedom, to which former Prime Minister Mehdi Bazargan belongs. Others include the Mujahideen-e-Khalq movement led by Lotfollah Meissami, who IRNA said was one of the first members of the Mujahideen-e-Khalq organisation which waged an armed struggle against the late Shah.

Holland opens dialogue with PLO

TUNIS (R) — The Netherlands Monday opened a formal dialogue in Tunis with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), which said it hoped for a Dutch contribution to Middle East peace. "We expect Holland to play its role through the European community to achieve progress towards peace," PLO Political Department head Farouk Saddouki said after meeting Henry Wijesundara, director of political affairs at the Dutch Foreign Ministry.

13 killed in Philippine grenade attack

MANILA (AP) — Assassins hurled a grenade into a crowd attending award ceremonies at a basketball tournament, killing at least 13 people and injuring 69 others in a remote area of the southern Philippines, the military said Monday. Lt. Anselmo Cabigan, a military spokesman, said the attack came at 11:30 p.m. Sunday at a basketball court in Esperanza, a town in Sultan Kudarat province, about 360 kilometers south of Manila. There was no indication who was responsible for the attack. Cabigan said.

Morocco, Syria restore relations

RABAT (Agencies) — Morocco and Syria have decided to restore diplomatic ties as a result of mediation by Saudi Arabia, a joint statement said Monday.

The Moroccan/Syrian statement said the decision was taken "following the fraternal initiative of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to eliminate obstacles hindering concerted Arab action to face up to dangers threatening the Arab Nation."

The announcement was also broadcast on Damascus Radio.

Saudi Arabian Crown Prince Abdullah Ibn Abdul Aziz left Damascus Saturday after two days of talks with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad and flew to Rabat for talks with Moroccan leaders.

Syria severed relations with Morocco in July 1986 in protest at a meeting between King Hassan and the then Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres.

Rifai holds talks with 2 American senators

AMMAN (J.T.) — Prime Minister Zaid Rifai met with visiting U.S. senators Nancy Landon Kassebaum and John McCain and discussed with them international and Middle East developments.

U.S. Ambassador to Jordan Roscoe Suddarth was present at the meeting, held at the Prime Ministry, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said.

Sen. Kassebaum is a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee while Sen. McCain is member of the Senate Armed Services Committee.

Uprising leaders rule out truce

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Leaders of the Palestinian uprising vowed Monday to continue the anti-occupation revolt as it entered its 14th month with a general strike and clashes in which troops wounded 11 Palestinian protesters.

In a leaflet distributed in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip underground leader condemned "weak voices" being heard by some weak individuals... racing to participate in conspiracies aimed at stopping the uprising and heroic resistance to Zionist terror."

Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin, meanwhile, has renewed secret contacts with Palestinians to discuss convening municipal elections in the occupied territories for the first time since 1976, the daily Haaretz reported.

The meeting at Rabin's Tel Aviv office were held in secret to

protect participants from attacks by Palestinian nationalists, the Hebrew-language paper said.

The PLO underground leadership of the uprising also rejected Israeli moves for elections and called for escalation of the revolt, speaking through the leaflet distributed in the occupied territories Monday.

"Our heroic people, we are

convinced that your struggle will defeat the terrorist (Prime Minister Yitzhak) Shamir, who is trying to hold the uprising by holding elections to try to find another leadership than our representative, the PLO (Palestine Liberation Organisation)," said

the leaflet.

The army maintained curfews on four Gaza Strip refugee camps and the neighbourhoods of Gaza city and Rafah, confining 135,000

residents to their homes.

Bethlehem Mayor Elias Freij last month proposed a one-year

U.N.-sponsored truce in the uprising in exchange for Israeli moves, such as releasing detainees and holding municipal elections.

He later withdrew the idea after PLO leader Yasser Arafat said in a statement that Palestinians who call for an end to the uprising risked the bullets of their

peoples.

In the West Bank, troops shot and wounded four Palestinians in a violent clash in Fara'a village, the army said.

Hospital officials said five others were shot and wounded in a clash in Qabatiya, Kufri Dik and Beit Ummar villages and Dheisheh and Al Amari refugee camps.

In the Gaza Strip, soldiers wounded two Palestinians during stone-throwing protests in Beit Lahiya village and Rafah refugee camp. Bethlehem Mayor Elias Freij last month proposed a one-year

U.N.-sponsored truce in the uprising in exchange for Israeli moves, such as releasing detainees and holding municipal elections.

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peoples.

There were no reported injuries. Palestinians heeded a strike call for the second day in a row and closed shops, halted transport and stayed away from their jobs, to mark the anniversary of the revolt.

A small bomb exploded overnight near the Jewish settlement of Tekoa, causing no damage, an army spokeswoman said.

Molotov cocktails were also thrown overnight in the Jerusalem neighbourhood of Gilo, at the Ginot Shomron-Jewish settlement and at a settler's car in Hebron, the army and Palestinians said.

The leaflet praised Palestinian lawyers for boycotting Israeli military courts and renewed calls for Palestinian employees of the Israeli occupation authorities to resign.

It called general strikes Jan. 15 and Jan. 24 and declared Jan. 10 "a day to escalate the uprising."

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peoples.

Some of the survivors spoke of seeing flames and flashes gush from one of the engines during the 34-minute flight from London.

Cars pulled to the side of the six-lane highway as the aircraft hurtled toward them, but there were no reports of injury to motorists.

One engine was on fire, and Transport Secretary Paul Chanon said it "certainly looks probable" there was a problem with the both engines. One of the engines was reported on fire as the plane came down.

Villagers who ran to the scene found corpses strewn on the roadway and some dazed passengers climbing out of the wreckage unaided.

Rescuers struggled until near dawn Monday to free remaining survivors, some of whom were

(Continued on page 2)

43 killed in Boeing crash on busy British motorway

LOCKERBIE Dec. 21, killing 270 people.

"We are satisfied the cause was technical," an airline spokesman said.

The British Midland Boeing crashed on a grassy embankment alongside the main M1 north-south motorway as it tried to make an emergency landing at east Midlands Airport, 150 kilometres north of London. It was just about one kilometre

of Kegworth in central England in Britain's second major airline disaster in a month.

But the airline, British Midland Airways, ruled out speculation by aviation experts that sabotage was to blame as was the case when a Pan American Boeing 747 crashed on the Scottish town of

Lockerbie Dec. 21, killing 270 people.

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Officials of the Scandinavian

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PLO expects serious superpower push for peace

By Najwa Najar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The main question that remains in prospects for peace in the Middle East is whether the concessions made by the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) will lead to similar concessions by the other parties directly or indirectly involved in the Arab-Israeli conflict, according to a senior PLO official.

Amal launched a counter-attack before dawn Monday and retook three of five villages which were seized by Hezbollah in a lightning onslaught the previous day in south Lebanon's Iqlim Al Tufah.

Iranian sources said Mahmoud Rafsanjani, brother of the speaker of Iran's parliament, Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, arrived in Beirut and held immediate talks with Sheikh Mohammad Mehdi Shamseddine, vice-president of the Higher Sh'ite Council, in a bid to end the fighting.

Rafsanjani also went to the home of Sheikh Mohammad Hussein Fadlallah, Hezbollah's spiritual mentor, in Beirut's southern suburbs.

At the same time, Abu Sharif

believes that the stands of the U.S. and Soviet Union towards the Middle East in the context of the prevailing superpower detente are of major significance in the Middle East peace process.

He points out that one of the main elements in the detente policy is the stress on the necessity of finding political solutions for hot regional problems, among which the Middle East conflict figures high.

"Both the U.S. and the Soviet Union have agreed on several points concerning a peace process in the Middle East in the context of their commitment to the detente policy," said Abu Sharif in an interview with the Jordan Times.

"The superpowers have agreed to join efforts to solve the Middle East problems, and both see to the necessity of an international conference as a way to solve the problems," Abu Sharif said. "They also agree that Israel's occupation of Arab territories should end."

"We expect a serious effort to be made by both superpowers

ers after President-elect George Bush takes office on Jan. 20," he said. "At the same time we have no illusion that these efforts will not take time to become fruitful."

Abu Sharif sees the Soviet Union as being essential to any Middle East peace process since the new policy adopted by Moscow "is a policy of peaceful coexistence and of international cooperation to establish stability and peace that will create a healthy atmosphere for economic development in the world community."

Afghan rebels call off Soviet talks

ISLAMABAD (Agencies) — Afghan rebel leaders refused Monday to resume direct talks with the Soviet Union, contending Moscow was attempting to secure a place for its communist allies in a post-war government.

The rebels' spokesman said the decision meant fighting was likely to continue beyond Feb. 15, the date by which the Soviet Union agreed last year to withdraw its troops.

Rebel leaders ended talks with Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Yuli Vorontsov Saturday after the two sides reached an impasse over the composition of a post-war Afghan government. At the time, rebel leaders said they were prepared to continue the talks.

But Monday, the spokesman for the U.S.-backed guerrillas based in Pakistan, Sibghatullah Mojaddidi, said the rebel alliance had decided to break off its talks with the Soviets.

"Because the Soviets use threats, look for war rather than peace, and disrespect Afghans' right of self-determination, we

believe that negotiations are unproductive and unnecessary," he said.

At a news conference Saturday, Vorontsov told reporters that Moscow would find a way to support its allies in Kabul if there was no broad-based government that included communists in place after Feb. 15.

Rebels, who have been fighting the Soviet-backed Afghan government for 10 years, are opposed to allowing the communists to participate in a post-war Afghan government.

The Soviets have threatened that if their terms are not accepted they will supply new weapons, not deployed before, to (Afghan President) Najibullah's regime after the withdrawal," said Mojaddidi. "The Soviets' efforts to impose a government of their choice on the Afghan nation

will protract the war and kill our people."

Although Mojaddidi ruled out a ceasefire sought by Vorontsov, he promised that the Mujahedeen would not attack departing Soviet soldiers.

Mojaddidi said Vorontsov was told: "We can only order Mujahedeen not to attack your withdrawing troops. We can give you peace... to pass."

The Soviet official has said Moscow would meet the Feb. 15

deadline unless departing Soviet soldiers are attacked by guerrillas.

Mojaddidi said any future talks would have to be about war reparations and the return of prisoners.

Vorontsov, who is also ambassador to Afghanistan, has travelled to Saudi Arabia, Italy, Iran and Pakistan during the past month with Moscow's plan to set up a broadly-based Afghan government after the withdrawal.

Moscow insists on a role for Najibullah's party. The plan would also include a part for former King Zahir Shah, 74, ex-

iled in Rome since his overthrow in a 1973 coup.

"Any solution will be according to the will of the Afghan people, it is not for them or any other country to decide," Mojaddidi told reporters.

He said the Soviets, who intervened in Afghanistan in December 1979, would have to pay for the destruction caused by the war and return Mujahedeen prisoners, who the rebels say number 40,000.

The rebels were also angered by Vorontsov's comment Saturday that any more killing in the war would be on their conscience because they had not reciprocated Kabul's unilateral ceasefire of Jan. 1.

"A ceasefire is not possible because the cause of the war has not been removed, the forced existence of the Russians and the puppet regime," Mojaddidi told the news conference.

"He said the Mujahedeen had killed many Soviet soldiers, but that the Soviets had killed, captured and tortured many more, including women and children,

and forced millions into exile. "Has all this been forgotten?" asked Mojaddidi.

Mohammad Karim Khalil, representative of Afghan rebels based in Iran who joined the talks with Vorontsov, told the news conference he would remain in Pakistan this week to discuss the council with other guerrilla leaders.

Both the Iran- and Pakistan-based rebels have agreed that the ruling People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA) of Najibullah can play a part in a post-war government.

About three million Afghan war refugees live in Pakistan and another two million in Iran. The Iran-based rebel fighters belong to the same sect of Islam practised by most Iranians.

About 17 per cent of Afghanistan's 15 million people are Shi'ites while 80 per cent belong to the Sunni sect. The Pakistan-based rebels are Sunnis.

Mojaddidi said the rebels' decision to end the talks with the Soviets means fighting is likely to continue beyond Feb. 15.



Afghan rebel leader Sibghatullah Mojaddidi reads out from a paper and Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Yuli Vorontsov (right) listens intently at a round table in Islamabad Friday. Mojaddidi announced Monday the rebels were breaking off talks with the Soviet Union.

N. Yemen urges Britain to meet peace obligation

SANA (R) — North Yemen Foreign Minister Abdul Karim Al Iryani told Britain Sunday it had a special obligation to help bring about Palestinian independence.

Iryani was speaking at a dinner in honour of British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe.

Howe, coming to the end of a 10-day tour of the Gulf and the Horn of Africa, arrived earlier from Oman for the first visit to this country by a British cabinet minister.

British officials said Iryani welcomed calls made by Howe during his tour for Israel to respond positively to peace overtures by the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Iryani said in his speech it was

time for the world to declare an end to the spilling of Palestinian blood.

Referring to Britain's role in the creation of Israel in 1948, he added: "Her Majesty's government has a very special moral obligation to lead the Palestinians to self-determination and independence."

Iryani called the situation in the occupied West Bank and Gaza "dangerous and tragic."

Howe said Britain had "exerted direct influence in the search for a just and lasting solution to the Arab-Israeli dispute."

He said the recent moves by the PLO were part of a series of events which had created a new opportunity for a peaceful settle-

ment. "I hope the people of Israel, who have themselves known war and persecution and suffering, will see — and seize — this chance to make peace," Howe said.

"You have much to lose by the prolongation of the present violence and hostility," he said, referring to Israel. "You have everything to gain from peace — most of all, your goal of a secure existence behind internationally recognised frontiers."

Earlier, the two foreign ministers signed agreements under which Britain will provide North Yemen with £30 million (\$54 million) in grants and low-interest loans to finance a power link from the Red Sea to Sanaa.

No concessions to Iran — Iraq

CAIRO (Agencies) — Iraq's First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yassin Ramadan said Sunday his country would not concede any ground in its stalled peace negotiations with Iran.

"We have no intentions for any concessions... we will not change our policies (in this respect) under any framework or threat and we are alert to every move," he told a news conference.

Ramadan, who earlier held talks with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, was replying to a question on a reported buildup of Iranian troops on the border since Baghdad and Tehran agreed to a ceasefire last August.

The two countries, which were at war for eight years, have made little progress in peace negotiations.

"How can you expect progress when Iranian leaders are not united behind peace... the Iranians are sending unclear signals on whether they really want peace," he said.

Asked about the government's plans for Iraq's post-war reconstruction, Ramadan indicated that non-Arab investors would not be welcome to participate.

"Iraq must depend first on its own capabilities, and then on Arab projects and investment. As for foreign investments and banks, we, as a rule, do not like foreign investments in our country."

"Foreign investment is rejected," Ramadan said, adding that if a certain project necessitated foreign participation, "we will study the issue."

Speaking on a multitude of issues, Ramadan said that Iraq had officially asked at the Arab summit in Nov. 1987 that Egypt's membership be reinstated in the Arab League. He said he hoped Egypt would be invited to attend the next Arab summit.

"We held some contacts which showed support for Egypt's return to the league and this will be discussed in the first session of the next Arab summit, so that

many residents have returned

following the Aug. 20 ceasefire.

The agency said the Presidential Guards Corps, the third, sixth and seventh army corps and the navy were ordered to the city to take part in reconstruction.

"The work covers the removal of wrecked machinery, motor vehicles and railway wagons which were used as shelters to protect people from enemy fire," Al Thawra newspaper quoted Basra Governor Anwar Sa'eed Al Hadithy as saying.

Hadithy said last year that President Hussein had allocated a special fund of \$5 billion to rebuild Basra, Iraq's second city and previously its major port.

Basra international airport was opened immediately after the ceasefire was announced.

Iraq said Monday that resuming the stalled peace talks with Iraq was futile without guarantees that Iraq will withdraw its troops from Iranian territory seized during the war.

Tehran Radio, monitored in Nicosia, quoted Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati as saying that Baghdad has to agree to a pullback if any progress is to be made.

It said Velayati made the comments in an interview in Paris, where he is attending a confer-

ence aimed at bolstering efforts to enforce a 1925 Geneva accord outlawing chemical weapons.

Velayati and Iraqi Foreign Minister Tareq Azziz met separately in Paris with United Nations Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, the radio said.

The radio commentary was the strongest indication yet that Iran may not go back to the negotiating table without guarantees that the next round of talks will achieve concrete results.

The radio said that the U.N. Security Council and all the countries which support its ceasefire resolution... "must not expect Iran to be optimistic about the talks until Iraq still refuses to withdraw from Iranian territory."

Taha Yassin Ramadan

Following a speech by Iryani, the radio said.

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Sudan water strike continues

Specter in Damascus

KHARTOUM (AP) — Women and children hauled water to their homes in tin cans, buckets and tanks attached to donkeys Monday as a strike by workers of the Sudanese Rural Waters Corporation entered its third day. Meanwhile, editorial and other employees of the official Sudan News Agency (SUNA) cut short a strike on the government's promise to implement their administrative demands within two weeks. The stoppage also began Saturday and was planned to last a week. The agency said Abd Al Nour, head of parliament's culture and information committee, had given SUNA workers a "written promise" that their demands would be fulfilled. Negotiations to end the strike at the government-owned water works were less successful. The strike is affecting more than a million Sudanese, in Khartoum's northern industrial area and the western Sudan regions of Kordofan and Darfur as well as some eastern towns like Gedaref and Kassala.

Gorbachev should study Islam'

NICOSIA (AP) — Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini has urged Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev to ask Iran for a new-look ideology that would replace communism, the Islamic Republic News Agency said Sunday. The agency was reporting the full text of a message sent by the ageing revolutionary patriarch to Gorbachev last week. "I expressly declare that the Islamic Republic of Iran, as the greatest and most powerful base in the world of Islam can easily fill the ideological vacuum of your regime," IRNA quoted the message as saying.

Khomeini's special envoy, Ayatollah Javad Amoli, travelled to Moscow Friday at the head of a mission to deliver the message to Gorbachev. The Iranian patriarch praised Gorbachev for his decision to allow more religious freedom in the Soviet Union, saying this proved he had turned his back on communism, "a bankrupt ideology," the agency said. But he warned the Soviet leader to avoid "the green garden" of Western capitalism.

Storm claims 2 Bahrain fishermen

BAHRAIN (R) — Two Bahraini fishermen drowned and four were missing after storms wrecked their boats in the Gulf, coastguards said Monday. They said two bodies were found inside a fibreglass boat on a coral reef five miles offshore. Helicopters and patrol boats were searching for a third person from the vessel. Three other fishermen missing since Dec. 29 have been presumed dead after their boat washed ashore in Qatar last week, the coastguards said.

Iran begins rebuilding

NICOSIA (AP) — Iran has begun rebuilding homes and factories in western regions which suffered most damage in the war with Iraq, the official Islamic Republic News Agency reported Sunday. In a report indicating Iranian confidence that hostilities are really over, a deputy of Prime Minister Hussein Musavi was quoted as saying more than 50 per cent of funds currently earmarked for reconstruction will be spent on rebuilding war-damaged urban and commercial premises. The agency, monitored in Nicosia, said that much of the rebuilding will take place in the Khuzestan, Ilam and Bakhtaran provinces, all frontline provinces with Iraq which sustained heavy damage in the war. The government announced last month that it has allotted more than \$700 million for reconstruction during the current Iranian year which ends March 21. More than \$650 million of that amount will go toward rebuilding and renovating residential and educational, cultural and sports facilities, IRNA said. That sum, however, is only a fraction of the amount needed to rebuild the Iranian economy — estimated by foreign analysts at between \$300 and \$500 billion.

43 killed in Boeing crash

(Continued from page 1)

Airlines System (SAS), a part owner of British Midland Airways, said Monday the company had been on a worldwide security alert triggered by a threat.

The bomb threat, relayed from Hungarian police through Interpol eight days ago, was directed against SAS carriers or their subsidiary airlines and hotels.

But John Herbert, spokesman for the Stockholm-based airline, said to link was suspected between the threat and Sunday's fatal crash.

The plane's two giant wings, heavily loaded with fuel, remained virtually intact. The severed tail section of Flight BD92 crashed in woodland alongside the highway, surrounded by wreckage from the severed centre and nose sections. The undercarriage was strewn over the highway, which remained closed to traffic.

Witnesses of the crash and a radio operator who monitored pilot Kevin Hunt's final exchanges with air traffic control said both engines appeared to have failed.

Hunt, a 25-year veteran, was among the badly injured survivors. The final survivor, a woman, was pulled out from a tangle of metal and crushed fuselage more than seven hours after the crash.

British Midlands sold 24.9 per cent of its stocks to SAS in December. SAS, which is half owned by the government of Norway, Denmark and Sweden, paid \$45 million.

Witnesses of the crash and a

U.S. congressman sees Bush working for peace

By Najwa Najjar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A Republican congressman from Illinois is hopeful about the progress of peace in the region after U.S. president-elect George Bush takes office later this month.

Edward Madigan, who left Amman Sunday night after a three-day visit, believes Bush will be more interested in a solution to the Middle East problems than ex-President Ronald Reagan.

He said the policy that Bush would be following has not been determined yet. The Bush administration "will want to talk to a number of people first," he said. Madigan is certain that both Bush and his secretary of state nominee James Baker "are going to be interested in any opportunity (for peace in the region) which presents itself."

Madigan said the U.S. Congress supports peace, "but, I do not know (in what form)" since many congressmen are still wary of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

He referred to a recent statement made by PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat on Radio Monte Carlo warning that any Palestinian calling for a truce in the year-long intifada in the occupied territories was being met by bullets.

"This needs to be clarified or the

instability will continue," Madigan said.

Asked how the U.S. navy's downing of two Libyan planes last week would contribute to "stability," Madigan sought to justify the incident by saying that a video tape, presented to the United Nations Security Council, showed that the Libyan planes were armed and that the U.S. planes took five separate manoeuvres to avoid them. "But they (Libyan planes) continued to pursue (the American planes)," he said.

He says that he realises there is a "controversy" over the incident and "it is very unfortunate that something like this has happened."

Referring also to the recent bombing of a Pan Am airliner, he added: "I hope we can put this behind us and work towards peace."

Madigan was unable to comment on the U.S. threats to attack an alleged Libyan chemical weapons factory. "I have no other information than that in the media," he said.

Madigan, who was accompanied by two other Republican congressmen, left for Egypt.

During the visit, they were received by His Majesty King Hussein and Prime Minister Zaid Rifai.

Zaid Rifai

Min. Max. Temp.

Europarliment speaker due here Wednesday

AMMAN (Petra) — The speaker of the European Parliament Sir Henry Plumb is due here Wednesday on a three day visit to Jordan during which he will meet with a number of Jordanian government officials.

Sir Henry will discuss with Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament 'Ahmad Al Lawzi the latest developments in the Palestine problem and current efforts to convene an international peace conference.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said Sir Henry and his accompanying delegation from the European Parliament will arrive in Amman from the occupied Arab territories.

7 European MPs to arrive

Meanwhile another group of parliamentarians from seven European nations are due here Wednesday in the course of a Middle East region tour, for



Minister of Labour Marwan Dudin Monday receives a two-member International Labour Organi-

sation team currently on a visit to Jordan (Petra photo)

Israel seeks to uproot Arabs from their land, Dudin tells ILO team

AMMAN (Petra) — A two member team from the International Labour Organisation (ILO) had a meeting here Monday with Minister of Labour Marwan Dudin to discuss the situation in the Israeli occupied Arab territories and Israel's discriminatory measures against Arab workers under its rule.

Dudin told the team that Israel's actions against Arab workers had their adverse effects on Arab institutions and Arab workers' livelihoods.

Over the past two decades Israel has adopted an official policy designed to uproot the Palestinian people from their homeland, to destroy the Palestinian people's social and economic infrastructure and obliterate Arab culture," the minister said at the meeting.

The Israeli, he noted, pursue their repressive policies with the aim of evicting the Arabs and settling Jews in their place. Dudin briefed the team on Israel's violations of international laws, hu-

man rights and the ILO principles.

Dudin called on the ILO to intervene and put an end to Israel's aggressive measures against the Arab workers and its continued violations of human rights.

The two member team, which arrived in Amman Sunday evening, will be going to Syria, Tunisia, Egypt and the occupied Arab territories in the course of their present tour.

Abu Qoura cables support for Paris conference objectives

AMMAN (Petra) — President of the Jordan National Red Crescent Society (JNRCS) Ahmad Abu Qoura Monday sent a cable to the chairman of the Paris international conference on chemical weapons expressing support for its objectives and hopes for its success.

Abu Qoura who is also president of the standing commission of the Red Cross and Red Cres-

cent Societies under the umbrella of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), said that the commission hopes that the conferees will adopt resolutions leading to the imposition of a total ban on the production and use of chemical weapons.

Jordan is represented at the Paris conference by Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem who said that chemical weapons threatened the Arab World.

Qasem said in a statement before he left Amman for the meeting in Paris, that the best way to stop the spread of chemical weapons in the Middle East was to pursue efforts for a peaceful settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict and to turn the ceasefire in the Iran-Iraq war into a lasting peace.

Second Arab strategic conference discusses papers by Jordanian experts

CAIRO (Petra, J.T.) — Working papers by Jordanian specialists were reviewed by delegates to the second Arab Strategic conference here Monday.

One of the papers presented by Royal Scientific Society (RSS) President Jawad Al Anani dealt with electronic industry in Jordan.

The paper, read out on Anani's behalf by Dr. Adnan Badran, secretary general of the Higher Council for Science and Technology, referred to the future challenges for the Kingdom in the field of science.

The paper said that electronic industries in Jordan are very limited at present centering on the manufacture of electric lifts, but currently training is continuing to acquire a generation of skilled technicians and scientists working in various industrial fields.

Another paper was presented

by Dr. Hussein Omar Touqan from the University of Jordan's Strategic Studies Centre, dealing with the technological and educational status in the Arab World and Israel. The paper also covered Arab war industries and military and defence expenditure.

Dr. Fawzi Gharibeh, the university's vice-president, presented a working paper on the demographic dimension and its relation to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The paper called on the Arab World to work out a population strategy for the occupied Arab territories with a view to supporting the steadfastness of the Palestinian people in their own homeland, and aborting Zionist plans to evacuate Palestine from its indigenous population.

The paper also covered Israel's strategy of evicting Arab inhabitants and its on-going repressive

measures against the Arab population and its establishment of Jewish settlements, as well as expansionist policies in the Arab areas.

Israel, the paper said, is trying to make the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip a permanent market for its own industrial products. The paper also dealt with the on-going uprising and its objectives.

University of Jordan President Abdul Salam Al Majali, who is attending the conference, said in a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, that studies being reviewed at the meetings cover the Arab World's military, educational, economic, demographic and social conditions.

The first strategic conference, which was held in Amman last year, dealt with the Arab Order and the future challenges, Majali said. He voiced hope that the present conference will come up with recommendations and resolutions to help promote conditions in the Arab World.

Jordan, Oman agree to boost cooperation

MUSCAT (Petra) — Jordan and Oman have agreed on a number of measures designed to boost their trade and step up their cooperation in economic fields.

Agreement was reached at a meeting by the joint Jordanian-Omani Economic Committee chaired by Minister of Industry and Trade Hamdi Tabbaa and his Omani counterpart Salem Ghazali.

The two ministers signed minutes of the meeting which tackled trade and economic cooperation, industrial projects and mutual cooperation in vocational training.

According to the minutes the two sides agreed to pursue efforts to promote trade exchanges between them and to encourage the private sectors in Oman to take charge of marketing Jordanian products through the Jordan Agricultural Marketing and Processing Company (JAMPCO) and its Omani counterpart.

To increase the volume of trade between Oman and Jordan the two sides agreed to exchange lists of goods for export to each other before agreement can be reached on them. They also agreed to study the prospect of reducing customs duty on the national products of either country upon entering the markets of the other.

The minutes said that the Omani side has agreed to allow Jordan to organise its third industrial fair in Muscat for the sake of promoting the sale of national products.

AACO team to discuss formation of company to finance aircraft purchase

AMMAN (J.T.) — A steering committee formed by the Arab Air Carriers' Organisation (AACO) meets here Tuesday to discuss the formation of a pan-Arab company that will take charge of financing the purchase and leasing of aircraft.

The committee which comprises chairman of the boards of directors of Royal Jordanian (RJ), Kuwait Airways and the Morocco Air Lines as well as the AACO's secretary general, will review a final report by a consultative commission that prepared a feasibility study on the project which is estimated to cost \$200 million.

A spokesman for the group said that a plan will soon be worked out to implement the project.

In addition, representatives of the three pan-Arab investment and financial institutions will be present at the meeting, the spokesman said.

He said that the project was expected to play a leading investment role in saving vast sums that used to go to a few number of world firms that leased aircraft.

Capital of one billion dollars

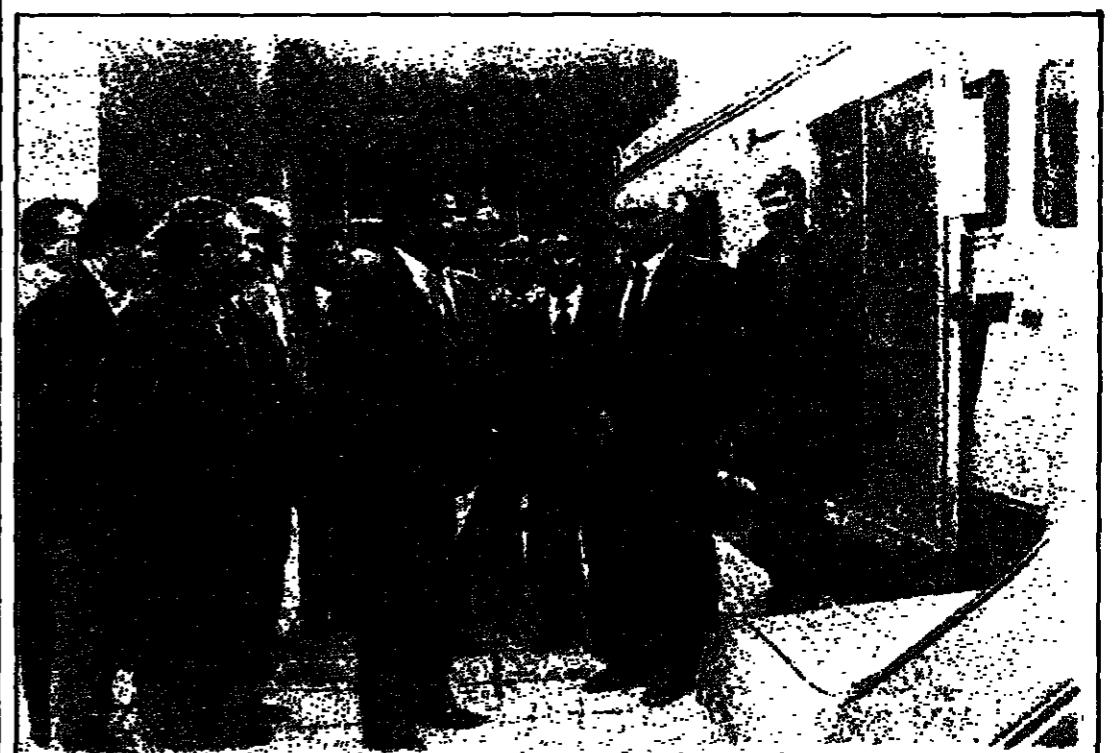
same time deal with a real challenge represented in the merger of American and European airlines.

Ghandaoui told a similar AACO meeting then that Arab airlines have started adopting a unified set of specifications, which is considered as a first step leading towards a more comprehensive cooperation in air transport operations.

Following up on last month's press conference, it was later announced that contacts were underway between representatives of the national air carriers of Jordan, Iraq, Egypt and Kuwait to form an Arab federation for air transport.

Director of the Iraqi Airways Noureddin Saifi Hammad said that representatives of the three airlines will meet later in January in Baghdad to discuss the proposed federation for which the four airlines will serve as a nucleus.

Once established, flights between the contracting countries will be considered as internal flights and as such, the flight rates will be lower than current flight rates.



Department of Meteorology Director Ali Abanda Monday briefs Minister of Transport and Telecommunications Khaled Al Haj Hassan on the operations of his department (Petra photo)

Haj Hassan inspects operations at meteorological department

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Transport and Telecommunications Khaled Al Haj Hassan Monday called at the Department of Meteorology and was briefed on its operations by its director Ali Abanda.

The minister said that accurate information about the weather conditions was of paramount importance for citizens, farmers and organisations.

The minister was briefed by Abanda on the work of the National Meteorological Centre which will commence operations shortly, providing weather forecasts six days in advance.

Last month, the department announced the completion of a

building that would serve as a national centre, complete with electronic devices which have already been installed and routed to specialised weather channels that are linked to satellites.

Abanda said that the centre cost nearly JD 500,000 of which nearly JD 200,000 came in the form of equipment and machines from the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO).

The WMO has also provided the centre with a radar system which can discover storms and clouds in any part of Jordan working within a 200-kilometre radius, and will send specialists to supervise the operations and train local staff.

Jordanian-W. German society marks 25th anniversary

HANOVER (J.T.) — The West German-Jordanian Friendship Society held a ceremony here recently to mark the society's 25th anniversary.

Jordan's ambassador to West Germany, Sharif Fawaz Sharaf, and a large number of prominent Arab and German figures attended the ceremony during which several speeches were delivered praising the bilateral relations and cooperation.

The society, which was established towards the end of 1963,

has been spearheading efforts to bolster bilateral relations, helping people from both countries to understand and know about the achievements of both nations in cultural, economic and industrial fields.

The society has over the past quarter century organised seminars and festivals to highlight cultural and economic achievements in both countries and organised visits by officials and public figures to Jordan and West Germany.

JORDAN PHOSPHATE MINES CO LTD

INVITATION TO TENDER

No. 1F/89

JPMC announces the invitation to tender No. (1F/89) for the supply of laboratory general apparatus, and laboratory chemicals for Eshidiya phosphate mines. The tender documents are available at JPMC offices in Amman supply department until 2.30 p.m. local time Wednesday 12.1.1989. Application for documents should be accompanied by a nonrefundable fee of JD (30) for each set of tender documents.

The closing date for submission tender is 12.00 hours local time Wednesday 8th February 1989.

WASEF AZAR
Managing Director

Ministry to ration artesian well water

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Water and Irrigation will call a meeting for all owners of artesian wells in the coming week to discuss licences for allowing them to exploit underground water in accordance with a rationalised plan, Minister of Water and Irrigation Ahmad Dakhqan said Monday.

He said that owners of wells will be allowed to pump out a fixed amount of water from the wells every year and they will be required to install metres on their wells to maintain control over the allowed quantity to be pumped by each.

The minister was speaking at a meeting attended by the Water Authority of Jordan (WAJ)

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- ★ An exhibition of works by Contemporary Arab Artists at Al Wasiti Art Gallery.
- ★ The Iraqi Cultural Week which includes an exhibition by the Iraqi artist Salam Al Madanqhi and an exhibition of children's paintings and children's literary and cultural books, at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- ★ An exhibition entitled "New Museum Buildings in the Federal Republic of Germany" at the Yarmouk University — 11:00 a.m.
- ★ A plastic art exhibition by Mohammad Kamal, Samar Al Sebe' and Nabil Saleh at the Housing Bank Gallery.
- ★ An exhibition of photos and videos on "La Defense", a new district in Paris which became a symbol of architectural creativity, at the French Cultural Centre.

BAZAAR

- ★ A charity bazaar that includes wooden handicrafts, embroidery, artificial flowers, children's toys and cultural books at Al'a Centre, Hittin Refugee Camp.

FILMS

- ★ A scientific film on the mechanism and functions of the brain (part 2) at the American Centre — 7:00 p.m.
- ★ A German film entitled "Die Moral der Ruth Halbfass" (English-subtitled) at the Goethe Institute — 8:00 p.m.

Italian envoy visits Salt handicraft centre

SALT (J.T.) — Italy's ambassador to Jordan Francesco De Curtis Monday visited a handicraft centre in Salt which was established by the Salt Development Corporation in cooperation with the Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF) and financed by the Italian government.

The ambassador was briefed on the centre's three-year training courses for students and instructed in its various sections.

The centre, is the first of its kind in the Kingdom and is designed to help promote traditional

handicrafts, encourage domestic tourism and find employment for local craftsmen.

Italy has provided JD 600,000 worth of equipment as a gift for the centre which adjoins the Salt Development Corporation.

The centre provides training to local women in weaving, ceramics and other traditional crafts and will also help market the products.

The centre which was recently opened is providing training to 15 instructors who will later offer training to students.

Suspected killer at Wihdat wedding arrested

AMMAN (J.T.) — The killer of a 21-year-old man, who was attending a wedding celebration on Jan. 5 at Al Wihdat district in Amman, has been apprehended by the police, according to a report in the local press Monday.

The killer identified only as H.R. SS fired his automatic rifle during the wedding from a point outside the house where the wedding was taking place with the intention of killing the bridegroom, but the bullets missed and hit Iyad Khaled Badawi, an innocent guest who was killed on the spot, according to the report quoting Public Security Department (PSD) officials.

The report said that the killer

aided by his own brother had planned to kill the bridegroom who they claimed had been responsible for the manslaughter of their own third brother last June. The two men responsible for the killing of Iyad were seized following strict and relentless investigations and enquiries, and they admitted to committing the crime, the report said.

The PSD officials said that the gun has been confiscated and the two men are being referred to court for trial.

Iyad Badawi, was described as

a student in the Jordan Nursing School who was invited as a guest at the wedding ceremony when he was shot.

The report said that the killer

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975.

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Three cheers for the pioneer

BY DECLARING before the on-going Paris conference on chemical weapons that it has decided to scrap all its chemical weapons, the Soviet Union has earned for itself the enviable status of being among the strongest supporters of real disarmament. Moscow has thus set new standards in disarmament and established fresh precedents for the elimination of mass destructive weapons. President Mikhail Gorbachev's hands can be seen and felt in this historic decision in the annals of disarmament. In the final analysis the Soviet leader is becoming a true blessing to humanity and a breath of fresh air in international relations. By any standards, President Gorbachev deserves the Nobel Peace Prize for 1989.

Now it is up to the other countries of the world, which manufacture, possess and intend to use chemical weapons, to respond to the herculean Soviet challenge in a way that leaves no doubt that their participation at the Paris conference on the control and elimination of the threat of poison gases is more than ceremonial and political gambit. The Soviets in effect are calling the bluff of all the other nations of the world which profess pious concern about Libya's alleged manufacture of chemical weapons while they keep on hoarding their poison gases for possible use against their adversaries. Accordingly, unless the international community stands up to the Soviet challenge and accepts to reciprocate by surgically removing existing loopholes in the 1925 Geneva protocol against the first use of chemical weapons by outlawing the possession and production of chemical weapons as well, the quest for banning chemical weapons would be undermined.

Meanwhile, humanity can sigh with relief that a super-power has broken the cycle of circumventing the intent and purposes of the 1925 Geneva protocol. From the bottom of our hearts, we solemnly say: Three cheers to the Soviet Union for the giant leap forward that it has taken along the path of actual elimination of mass destruction systems of weapons.

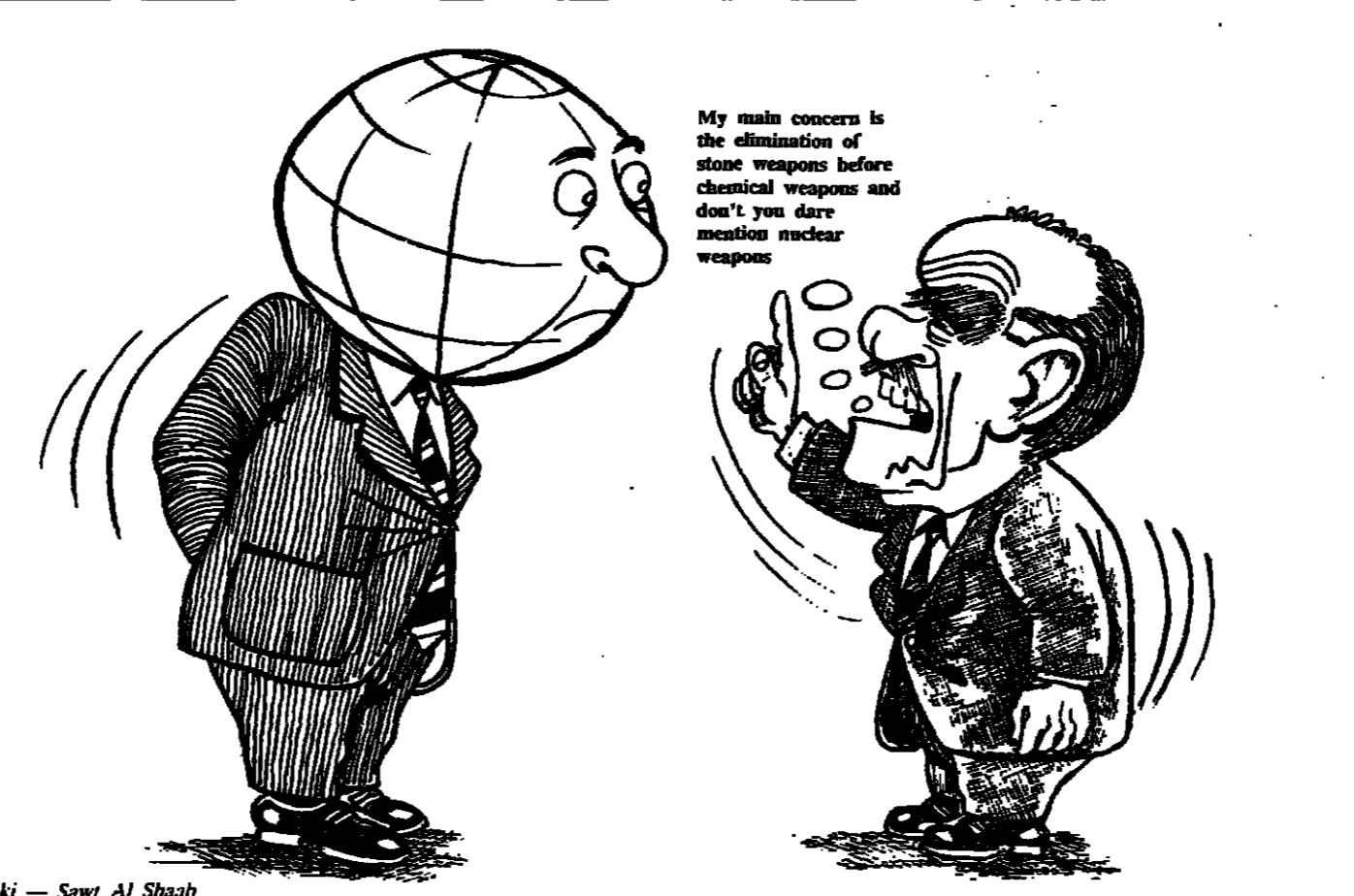
ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i newspaper Monday discussed the Jordanian-Palestinian relations which it said are based on mutual confidence and bolstered by the latest talks held in Amman. The Palestine question indeed remains an issue for all Jordanians and it was quite natural that the King's talks with PLO leader Yasser Arafat should be successful and fruitful, the paper noted. It said that the Jordanian leadership is quite aware of the dangers inherent in the Zionist conspiracies in Palestine and Israel's expansionist plans in the Arab region as a whole and for this leadership the problems of Palestine and Jerusalem have become central issues and the axis of Jordan's political stance. The paper said that the hoisting of the Palestinian flag over the Palestine embassy in Amman came as a crowning of the Jordanian-Palestinian fruitful march and close and progressive cooperation.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily also comments on the very strong relations between the Palestinian and Jordanian leadership which he says are bound to further bolster ties between the united people. Mahmoud Al Rimawi says that it is true that the two sides had had their differences in the past but that was quite natural for any mutual relationship between two sides vying to offer the best services for their people. Even within the same community one can feel differences of views and disputes over a variety of topics relevant to national interest, the writer points out. He says that the crowning of the mutual endeavours with total agreement as emerged at the conclusion of the Amman meetings is a source of pride and delight for friends and can only be a source of anger for common enemies. The twin people of Jordan and Palestine, the writer adds, stand close together in one trench confronting all challenges and there is no doubt that Jordan will continue to serve as the strategic depth for Palestinians in their long march for freedom.

Al Dastour daily tackled the same topic describing the King-Arafat talks in Amman as representing a symbol of unity between the peoples of Palestine and Jordan, guided by the common national interest. The paper said that the decision to establish a Palestinian embassy in Amman was another step by Jordan to show sincere support for the PLO and its efforts to regain the rights of the Palestinian people and to enhance their identity. There is no doubt that the fast moving developments in the Palestine problem, especially the escalation in the uprising and the PLO's recognition of the U.N. Security Council resolutions were instrumental in cementing the mutual and successful cooperation, the paper noted. It said that the Jordanian-Palestinian relationship now rests on very firm grounds, enhanced by mutual confidence and true solidarity.

Sawt Al Shaab daily commented on PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's statements at the press conference Sunday in which he paid tribute to Jordan for its unwavering support for the Palestinian people in their struggle to regain their rights. Arafat was particularly supportive of Jordan's decision last July to sever legal and administrative ties with the West Bank, a step that paved the way for the PLO to shoulder its responsibility at the international level. The paper described continued Jordanian backing for the PLO as the most essential reason behind the PLO's successes and one that shows a true meaning of solidarity among brothers.



Zaki — Sawt Al Shaab

Soviet foreign aid shows new trends

Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's reforms have led to a perception in the USSR and Eastern Europe of an interdependent world — a contrast with the previous view of a world divided into two systems. It was as a result of this change that the Eastern Bloc signed the final act of UNCTAD VII which explicitly mentions the necessity of enhanced resource flows from the Socialist countries.

By Jurgen Bartsch

PARIS — According to the Organisation of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) estimates, Soviet aid has risen to almost double its share in world official development assistance (ODA) between 1980 and 1986, from 5 per cent to 9 per cent.

With \$4.2 billion of net ODA disbursements the USSR was the fourth largest donor in 1986. With the figure cited by the Soviet Union at UNCTAD VII in Geneva in July 1987 (15.1 billion roubles or \$21.4 billion at the official exchange rate), the USSR would be the largest aid donor.

Faced with the rising cost of aid, declining economic and political returns and competing domestic demands for financial resources, the Soviet Union recently has pushed for the implementation of reforms which had been initiated earlier years but had moved very slowly.

More efficiency is now demanded explicitly, both in the Soviet aid administration and in the recipient countries, in particular in the three developing countries that are members of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA) — Cuba, Mongolia and Vietnam.

That was the theme of a conference of ministers and officials organised in Moscow in June 1987 by the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party. While promising the continuation of economic support, the conference placed considerable emphasis on new forms of joint ventures and direct production and scientific links. Criticism was also expressed about the Soviet aid administration.

During negotiations over the Soviet contribution to Cuba's 1986-90 five-year plan, the USSR insisted on giving priority to the completion of projects already under construction rather than undertaking new ones. It nevertheless promised new credits worth 50 per cent more than those of the period of the previous plan and granted a debt moratorium until 1990.

The new commitment amounts to 2.5 billion roubles, or \$3.5 billion at the official exchange rate, which corresponds to an annual \$70 per capita. While the USSR blames Cuba for slow and inefficient implementation of Soviet-supported projects, Cuban

officials attribute many of the country's current economic problems to the CMEA system of economic management and planning.

Mongolia was promised 50 per cent more in financial support for its 1986-90 five-year plan, i.e. over 3 billion roubles, which represents some \$440 per capita annually. Yet the USSR criticised Mongolia's poor economic performance and pressed for higher output and better quality of the goods produced at enterprises built with Soviet assistance, for better training of local managers and improved cooperation with Soviet experts.

The USSR has also pressed

Vietnam to use the massive flows

of aid more efficiently and to improve its economic performance. Nevertheless, in late 1986 the USSR promised to double its contribution to the 1986-90 plan, to some 8 to 9 billion roubles (about \$2.2 to \$2.5 billion a year, equivalent to \$27-530 per capita).

Again, much emphasis was placed on speeding up USSR-aided projects, the importance of producing the largest possible returns and finding rapid solutions to the growing economic problems facing Vietnam. Joint enterprises and production-sharing arrangements, already favoured by the USSR and other CMEA donors during the previous five-year plan period, will be further extended.

The geographic distribution of Soviet aid, which is determined by considerations of foreign policy, the requirements of the Soviet economy and ideological affinity, has always been concentrated on Cuba, Mongolia and Vietnam.

During the 1980s these three countries obtained some three quarters of USSR-bilateral net disbursements.

Most remaining Soviet aid is

directed towards countries which are politically and/or ideologically tied to the USSR: Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Kampuchea, North Korea, Laos, Mozambique, Nicaragua and South Yemen.

Most of these countries were promised significantly higher financial support up to 1990, but particular emphasis was laid on mutual benefit and adequate economic returns. Furthermore to contain the growing cost of assistance to some of the other priority countries, the USSR encouraged Angola and Mozambique to turn increasingly to Western donors.

Few resources were left for other countries, and aid to many traditional recipients, including Algeria, Iran and Turkey, declined significantly and in several instances became negative (when repayments exceeded new flows).

The only major exception is India which continues to enjoy a privileged relationship, receiving large new frame-credits (general agreements to offer support up to a given amount), both in 1985 and 1986, at particularly favourable terms. Apart from aid for

specific projects, cooperation between the two countries increasingly takes the form of joint enterprises, cooperation with third parties, and the subcontracting to India of parts of projects in other countries which receive Soviet aid.

Economic cooperation with Sub-Saharan Africa still appears to pose major problems for the USSR and the other CMEA countries. For example, the five Portuguese-speaking countries in Africa — Angola, Mozambique, Cape Verde, Guinea Bissau and Sao Tome and Principe — stated at a ministerial meeting in 1987 that the Socialist countries did not understand local realities and that the concept of economic cooperation between the two groups of countries had proved inadequate.

Criticism has also been voiced in Nigeria about the political nature of aid from the Soviet Union and the importance of a change in the nature of its aid for Africa. In its aid relations with sub-Saharan countries the Soviet Union is hampered by its inability to engage in grass-roots projects, a difficulty at least partly related to the absence of non-governmental aid organisations in the Soviet Union.

In an effort to rationalise its administration of aid, the Soviet government undertook to reorganise the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations (GKES) and the foreign trade organisations in charge of the implementation of the Soviet aid programme early in 1987. GKES was made responsible for the commissioning of Soviet-built enterprises and for ensuring their efficient operation.

In conjunction with a newly created State Foreign Economic Commission, the GKES had been invited to "submit to the council of ministers proposals to improve the organisation of building Soviet-assisted projects abroad." In January 1988 the GKES was merged with the Foreign Trade Ministry into a new Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations, a re-organisation expected to improve the Soviet aid administration.

The USSR is increasingly delivering completed projects on a "turnkey" basis, for which it also assumes the initial responsibility for their effective management.

Soviet planning experts, aware that large state farms and irrigation projects do not always suit the requirements of the poorest developing countries, advised Ethiopia to strengthen the private sector and offer material incentives to private farmers. A similar move has been reported for Afghanistan and Guinea.

In order to integrate economic relations with developing countries more closely into the planning process of the Soviet economy, increasing emphasis is being laid on the development of long-term programmes for bilateral cooperation in the economic, scientific, technological and trade spheres. At present such long-term programmes have been concluded with 11 developing countries.

Some new developments have occurred in multilateral fora, demonstrating the USSR's desire to participate more closely in world trade and economic relations: in April 1987, for the first time, the Soviet Union sent an observer to the annual meeting of the Asian Development Bank, and in July signed the agreement to the UNCTAD Common Fund for Commodities, in which it holds a 5.8 per cent share.

It has, moreover, discharged some outstanding international debts — and has even applied to join the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). In particular, the USSR is paying growing attention to United Nations institutions in which it aims at a higher profile — Academic File.



© Academic File

Vietnamese pullout offer seen as Kampuchean breakthrough

By Joseph De Rienzo

Reuter

BANGKOK — Foreign parties to the Kampuchean conflict appear close to diplomatic settlement but the fight for who will rule the Indochinese state is still far from over, diplomats have said.

Several envoys in Bangkok described as significant an offer by Hanoi to bring home Vietnamese forces by September as part of a settlement that would also end foreign support for Khmer Rouge-dominated guerrillas.

"I'm convinced Peking and Moscow and the other (outside) players have decided to settle, and in a few months could walk away and leave it to the Kampuchean to make peace or slug it

out," said one Western diplomat. China funnels aid to Khmer Rouge guerrillas through Thailand, where the guerrillas take sanctuary and recruit fighters from refugee camps. Western diplomats say.

Kampuchean and Vietnamese leaders announced their offer last Friday at 10th anniversary celebrations of the founding of the Kampuchean government after a Khmer Rouge invasion.

The diplomats said the proposal probably resulted from talks on Kampuchea between the Chinese and Soviet foreign ministers in Moscow in December.

Both Peking and Moscow welcomed the initiative. Moscow, which supports Viet-

nam and Kampuchea, said it opened "the possibility of eliminating the seat of regional tension this very year... Such a chance must not be lost."

The Hanoi-Phnom Penh initiative calls for a pullout of Vietnamese troops by September, a ceasefire and an end to foreign military aid and sanctuary for the three-faction guerrilla alliance, all under international supervision.

Diplomats said the new momentum towards Kampuchean peace could affect the chances of Prince Norodom Sihanouk being included in any settlement.

Diplomats said many hurdles stand in the way of international agreement but that they could be cleared.

Western and many Asian states as someone who could unite the warring factions.

There was no indication Sihanouk had any part in the latest initiative. He said last week the deadlock "could only be broken on the battlefield" and has called for the Phnom Penh government's dissolution.

Kampuchean Prime Minister Hun Sen said recently that a solution of the conflict's international aspects could go ahead without the guerrillas. He called on Indonesia to hold a peace conference of South East Asian nations as scheduled in February despite a guerrilla boycott threat.

Diplomats said many hurdles stand in the way of international agreement but that they could be cleared.

A key element would be talks

between China and Vietnam, which Hanoi has been seeking. Peking recently made a big concession by offering to stop supplies to the Khmer Rouge if Hanoi set a withdrawal schedule.

A Thai spokesman called the pullout proposal a positive development. Thai Foreign Minister Siddhi Savetsila was due to visit Hanoi Monday to discuss Kampuchea.

Thai Prime Minister Chatichai Choonhaven said after taking office in August he wanted to change Indochina from a battlefield to a marketplace. He has also invited Hun Sen to Thailand.

The United States, Singapore, Malaysia and Thailand have supported the weak non-Communist guerrilla factions of Sihanouk and Son Sann as a counter to Kampuchea.

puchean and Vietnamese soldiers as well as the Communist Khmer Rouge.

Violently, the entire Khmer Rouge leadership under Pol Pot fled Hanoi's 1978 invasion to sanctuary on the Thai-Kampuchean border.

Diplomats expect the secretive movement, blamed by Western governments for at least one million deaths when it ruled from 1975-82, to fight on with or without foreign aid.

Phnom Penh has said it will not accept an international peacekeeping force, calling instead for an international commission armed only for its own protection.

Vietnam and Phnom Penh say Hanoi's troops will leave by the end of 1990 with or without a settlement.

Reagan proposes \$1.15 trillion 1990 budget

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan Monday proposed a \$1.15 trillion fiscal 1990 budget for the United States that would increase spending for defence and some domestic programmes while reducing the deficit without raising taxes.

The proposal provides for government revenues of \$1.06 trillion which would bring the deficit to \$92.5 billion. That compares with a deficit of \$161.6 billion during the current fiscal year which ends Sept. 30 and a \$100 billion deficit limit for fiscal 1990 set by law.

Reagan submitted his budget plan just 11 days before he hands the reins of power over to President-elect Bush. Reagan's budget plan already has been dismissed by congressional Democrats who said they want to see Bush's proposals.

Bush has said he will not propose dramatic changes to Reagan's budget after he takes the oath of office Jan. 20 but will modify it with his own priorities.

Bush pledged throughout his presidential campaign to cut the huge U.S. federal budget deficit without raising taxes but even some of his Republican backers have expressed doubts that he can do it.

The Reagan plan in many ways reflects the priorities outlined by Bush in his campaign. The budget plan leaves social security untouched and provides for increases in AIDS research and prevention and drug enforcement and reduces the deficit without new taxes.

In a radio interview Monday, White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater said that Bush's

nominee for Office of Management and Budget Director Richard Darman was consulted during the drafting of the budget plan and Bush's team made no changes.

Bush also promised to increase spending for education programmes. The Reagan budget plan provides for a \$200 million increase in education spending, but would do away with 25 Department of Education programmes.

The Reagan budget proposes eliminating a total of 80 federal programmes.

The Reagan plan provides for an increase in defence spending of two per cent above the inflation rate. Reagan proposed a total \$315.2 billion defence budget which includes current year spending and obligations for future spending. Congress approved a \$298.8 billion defence budget in the current fiscal 1989 year.

The Reagan budget assumes that the current economic expansion, now in its 74th month, will continue. The budget assumes that the gross national product (GNP), the total of goods and services produced in the United States, will grow by 3.5 per cent from the fourth quarter of 1988 to the fourth quarter of 1989 and by 3.4 per cent from the fourth quarter of 1989 to the end of 1990.

OPEC and non-OPEC members to meet soon

CAIRO (AP) — Members and non-members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) will meet at the expert level Jan. 26 in London to discuss ways of cooperating to stabilise the world oil market, OPEC's secretary-general said Monday.

Indonesia's Dr. Subroto also said that OPEC had no confirmation of published reports that the United Arab Emirates was exceeding its production quota, agreed upon at an OPEC meeting last November.

Subroto spoke to reporters after meeting with Oil Minister Abdul Hadi Kandil.

The Indonesian minister, who arrived in Cairo Sunday night, is touring non-OPEC oil-producing countries, and already has visited Colombia and Mexico. He is to depart Wednesday for Oman.

"I am also here to discuss the situation in the oil market and what OPEC and non-OPEC (na-

Inflation, as measured by the consumer price index, was forecast to rise by 3.6 per cent from the fourth quarter of 1988 to the end of 1989 and by 3.5 per cent from the fourth quarter of 1989 to the end of 1990.

Reagan's deficit numbers rely in large part on continued economic expansion.

If the GNP is one percentage point lower in fiscal 1990, then government tax receipts would drop by \$6.7 billion and spending would be \$1.9 billion higher, the budget document said.

If the lower growth continued, the deficit would be \$83 billion higher than originally projected for 1994, the budget document said.

If Congress enacts all of Reagan's budget proposals, an outcome that is highly unlikely, the federal budget would enjoy a

\$2.4 billion surplus in fiscal 1993, the document said.

Reagan proposed an 18 per cent reduction in agriculture spending, a proposal that already has been criticised by farm groups.

The outgoing president also proposed spending \$64 billion through 1994 for bailing out failing savings and loan institutions.

That includes \$16 billion for the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corp (FSLIC) in the current fiscal 1989 and \$9 billion in fiscal 1990, the budget document said.

The president, in his message to Congress, said the secretary of treasury will soon submit a detailed plan on the savings and loan bailout to Bush.

The budget also provides for \$18 billion to be spent for nuclear weapons facilities cleanup and modernisation through 1994.

Reagan said that as part of his efforts to return government enterprises to private hands he is

proposing the sale of the Naval Petroleum Reserves, the Alaska Power Administration and the Southeastern Power Administration.

Reagan also included in his fiscal 1990 budget plan changes to the budget process some of which already have been rejected by Congress.

Those include an amendment to the constitution that would require a balanced federal budget and a law that would give the president the power to reject individual items in appropriations bills.

He also asked that Congress adopt a biennial budget process, an idea that is gaining some support in Congress. Currently, the administration proposes and Congress enacts spending bills for the various government programmes each year.

Dollar rally continues

LONDON (R) — The dollar hit its highest level for nearly three months against the Deutsche mark Monday as investors risked central bank intervention and bought the American currency on hopes of higher U.S. interest rates.

Key European bourses firmed after Tokyo shares soared to record highs despite the death of Emperor Hirohito Saturday. The yen was steady, contrary to expectations that it would fall along with Japanese stocks after the emperor, who was 87 and had been bedridden since September, died.

Gold was fixed in London at a 2½ month low of \$404.45 an ounce Monday. The flight from precious metals to dollars had started in the United States Friday.

The dollar broke through 1.83 marks in Europe Monday morning, slightly higher than 1.8125 marks at the close Friday. Its highest level against the yen was 1.26.75 compared with 1.26.60 at Friday's finish.

The U.S. currency was fixed in Frankfurt at 1.8308 and the West German Bundesbank sold \$49.2 million at the fixing.

In Tokyo, Mitsubishi Bank Ltd said its new market-oriented short-term prime rate would be set at 4.25 per cent from Jan. 23. The current prime is 3.375 per cent, but the rise was below market expectations, dealers said.

A new year dollar rally was boosted Friday by better than expected U.S. employment data for December from Washington. That indicated U.S. economic strength and left intact the possibility of higher interest rates.

Tensions between Libya and the United States and a statement by Bundesbank Vice-President Helmut Schlesinger that he saw no signs of the dollar weakening also helped underpin the dollar.

The Bundesbank and the U.S. Federal Reserve sold dollars Friday on the open market but the central bank intervention failed to halt the U.S. currency's New Year's rise.

"The question is how concerned are they to stop the dollar?" asked Urs Bollinger of Swiss Bank Corporation. He noted market confusion over the Bundesbank's policy towards the dollar.

Dealers were troubled by the apparent about-turn in Bundesbank policy signalled by Schlesinger Friday.

Delors stresses necessity for European central bank

PARIS (R) — Jacques Delors, president of the European Commission, said Sunday that a West European central bank and monetary union were necessary but were a step beyond the European Community's (EC's) aims of a single market by 1992.

Delors, the chief architect and proponent of the Community's single market, also said monetary union would only be achieved if a common EC central banking system was autonomous from individual governments, like that of West Germany.

Speaking in a French television interview conducted in Madrid, Delors said: "Economic and monetary union is more than the common economic and social region seen for 1992. This is a reinforced cooperation. These are new institutions."

But he added: "Reinforced monetary cooperation is necessary. The common currency and the central bank are a further stage. The political decision (for

this) has not yet been taken."

Creation of a European central bank and wider use of the Community's basket currency, the European Currency Unit (ECU), have been a subject of deep contention among the three largest EC nations, West Germany, France and Britain.

Many economists saw it as the number one stumbling block to 1992, with Bonn most concerned to see guarantees of autonomy for a common central bank and London wary of losing political sovereignty.

Paris, whose Bank of France is subservient to the finance ministry, has backed away from plans for providing the central bank with an autonomous statute and resisted German demands for autonomy for an EC central body.

The commission is responsible for the day-to-day administration of Community business and the executive body which proposes all new EC legislation.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Monday, Jan. 9, 1989		Central Bank official rates	
Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell
U.S. dollar	Japanese yen (for 100)	381.7	382.6
Pound Sterling	858.0 862.4	235.4	236.6
Deutsche mark	265.8 267.1	77.4	77.8
Swiss franc	311.9 313.5	36.2	36.4
French franc	77.9 78.3	126.8	127.4

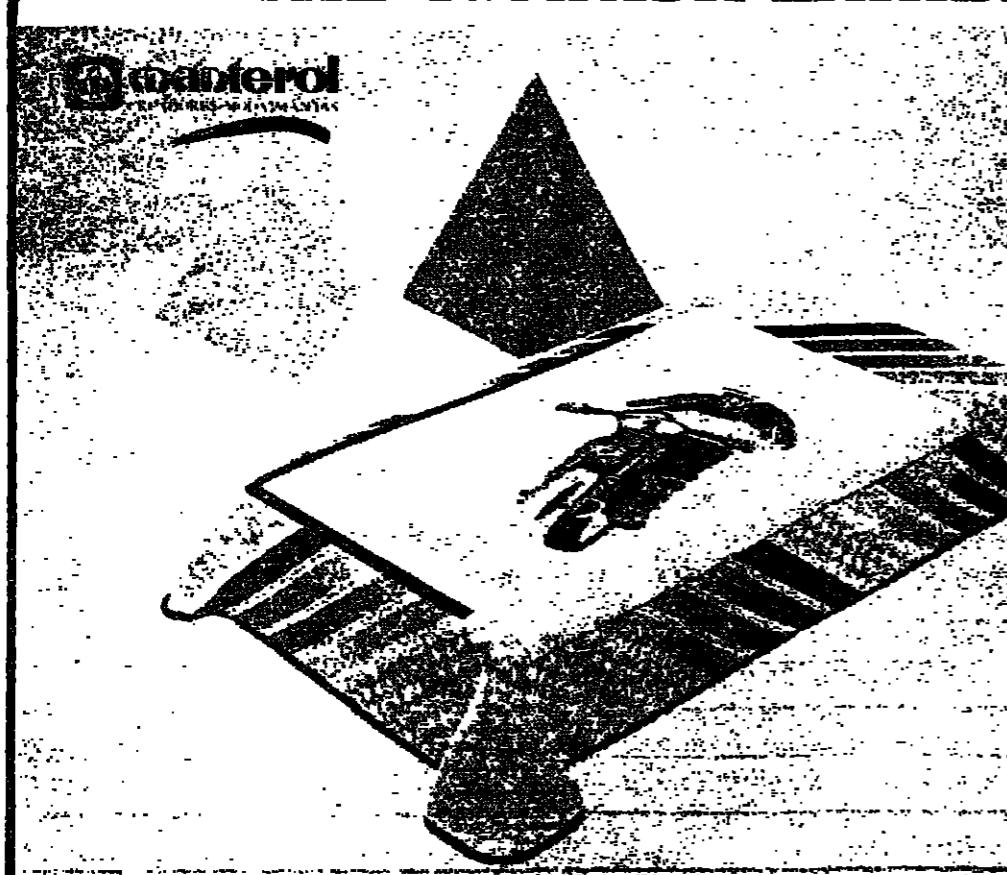
LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES			
Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Monday.			
One Sterling	1.7638/48	U.S. dollar	1.7638/48
One U.S. dollar	1.1960/70	Canadian dollar	1.1960/70
1.8290/8300	2.0650/60	Deutsche marks	2.0650/60
2.6650/60	1.5595/5605	Dutch guilders	1.5595/5605
38.33/36	6.2350/2400	Swiss francs	38.33/36
6.2600/50	1341/1342	Belgian francs	6.2600/50
6.6870/6920	126.60/70	French francs	6.6870/6920
7.0590/0640	126.60/70	Italian lire	7.0590/0640
One ounce of gold	403.30/405.80	Japanese yen	403.30/405.80
		Swedish crowns	
		Norwegian crowns	
		Danish crowns	
		U.S. dollars	

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

SYDNEY — Institutional trading dominated a share market buoyed by economic optimism overseas. The All Ordinaries Index closed up 9.8 at 1,488.2.	
TOKYO — Prices soared to close at a record high in heavy trading, surprising investors who expected a downturn and self-restraint on the first business day since Emperor Hirohito's death Saturday. The Nikkei Index rose 468.85 to 30,678.39.	
HONG KONG — Mild profit-taking in the afternoon depressed prices slightly but the Hang Seng Index rose 25.62 to close at 2,192.27, a post-crash high.	
SINGAPORE — Prices rose sharply across the board in active trading. The Straits Times Industrial Index rose 29.65 to 1,072.99, its highest level since Aug. 25.	
BOMBAY — Prices rebounded sharply to close with big gains after the exchange authorities halved purchase margins and raised sales margins by a half.	
FRANKFURT — Shares closed just above their lows as profit-taking whittled away sharp gains at the start of the session. The Dax Index rose 6.57 to 1,366.55.	
ZURICH — Prices closed slightly firmer across the board in moderate trading. The Swiss Index rose 2.5 to 964.9.	
PARIS — Shares mostly held or extended opening gains but a drop in luxury goods group LVMH helped keep the 50-share bourse indicator in a limited range.	
LONDON — Shares were steady but off their highs in afternoon business after profit-taking and a lull in the early showing on Wall Street. The FTSE 100 at 1546 GMT was 20.4 at 1,831.7.	
NEW YORK — Stocks showed a small overall gain by mid-morning but blue chips were almost unchanged. The Dow was little changed at 2,194.	

THE SPANISH EXHIBITION



has the pleasure to announce to its clients that a new and wide collection of Spanish blankets

manterol

single and double sizes, with different colours have arrived and are sold at reasonable prices that suit all.

FOR RENT
Furnished, semi-furnished, or unfurnished

The Used Furniture Centre is willing to purchase top quality used furniture.
Pis call Tawfic Abyad, tel: 676387 (centre), 668497 (home/at night)

WANTED USED FURNITURE

Studio consisting of a bedroom, amenities, with garden, independent entrance and independent central heating, in a quiet area in Sweifieh. Services are independent.

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For further details call 817960 from 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m.

Schneider keeps winning

ZURICH (R) — Swiss double Olympic champion Vreni Schneider, winner of an unprecedented eight successive technical events in the women's World Cup season so far, regards skiing as a hobby and fights shy of her new superstar image.

The 24-year-old daughter of a shoemaker from Elm, a hamlet in the mountains of Glarus east of Zurich, preserved her unbeaten slalom and giant slalom record Sunday, when she completed a rare treble by winning a slalom in Mellau, Austria.

Schneider had already overhauled the prestigious mark for a winning sequence in technical events set by former team-mate Erika Hess, winner of six slaloms in a row in 1981, with her second-giant slalom win in two days Saturday.

Apart from four special and four giant slaloms, she has also won a combination this season for a total of nine wins, leaving only Austrian Annemarie Moser-Proell's record of 11 in 1973 to aim at.

The modest Schneider, who was almost forced to give up skiing when her mother's death from cancer in 1980 left her in charge of a young family, is amazed at the stir her winning run has caused.

"I train hard and I enjoy skiing and racing," she said. "Competition is still fun for me, it's a hobby, not a job."

With a total of 22 victories, Schneider lies sixth in the ranks of the all-time greats of women's World Cup history.

Hess, who retired in 1987 to get married, won 31 World Cup events in her 10-year career and Moser-Proell, the Austrian su-

perstar who retired in 1980 at the age of 27 after her Olympic down-hill triumph, won 62 events in 12 years on the circuit.

Schneider has raced regularly in the World Cup since December 1984 and celebrated her first win in only her fourth race.

In 1987 she grabbed her first gold medal in the world championship giant slalom at Crans-Montana and in 1988 she became skiing's fifth double Olympic champion when she clinched the slalom and giant slalom titles in Calgary.

A serious crash in the Aspen downhill last March in which she tore knee ligaments prevented her from winning her first overall title last season. But this year she already has almost twice as many World Cup points as her nearest rival, Austrian Ulrike Maier.

The world championships opening in Vail, Colorado, at the end of this month could yield yet another record.

"Vreneli," as the Swiss call her, will be bidding for four titles, slalom, giant slalom, super-giant slalom and combined. No woman's skier has won more than three at the same championships.

Schneider, whose favourite pastimes are listening to Swiss country music and long mountain hikes, is almost embarrassed by the image of her as a sports star in some Swiss newspapers.

She feels she gets too much credit for her successes but trainer Jan Tischbauer is constantly impressed by her dedication.

"When she competes, she is not afraid of losing, she just tries her best to be as fast as possible. She accepts very well the fact that another racer can be faster than her," he said.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF

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DON'T FLOG A DEAD HORSE

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♦ A 2
♥ A Q 3
♦ J 7 5
♣ K 8 6 4 3

WEST ♦ 8 7 4
♥ 5
♦ 10 8 6 5
♣ K 10 9 2
♦ 10 5

EAST ♦ 5
♥ K 9 4
♦ 8 6 4 3
♣ Q J 9 7

SOUTH ♦ K Q J 10 9 6 3
♥ 7 2
♦ A 4 3
♣ A 2

The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♦ Pass 2 ♦ Pass
3 ♦ Pass 4 ♦ Dbl
4 NT Pass 5 ♦ Pass
5 NT Pass 6 ♦ Pass
6 ♦ Pass Pass

Opening lead: Five of ♦

There's sometimes an excuse for taking the second-best line. (You could be following a hunch.) To do so when you have been told that it is going to fail is the height of miscalculation.

North-South conducted an intelligent auction to reach a good slam. Once North could cue-bid hearts, South used Blackwood and settled in a small slam when he learned that two kings were missing.

In response to his partner's double of North's heart cue-bid, West led his fourth-best card in the suit. Declarer inserted the queen, East won and continued the suit to force out the ace. Now declarer had to hope that clubs were 3-3 and trumps 2-2, or that East held the king of diamonds. Neither expectation materialized, so declarer went down one trick.

Even had he not been warned that the king of hearts was offside, declarer had a better line available than a finesse. All he needed was a club break no worse than 4-2. To utilize the club suit, declarer needed two entries to dummy. To preserve the ace of hearts as an entry, declarer should play low from dummy to the first trick!

The best East can do is win the jack of hearts and shift to a diamond. Declarer counters by rising with the ace, cashing ace-king of clubs and ruffing a club high. After cashing the king of trumps and crossing to the ace, declarer ruffs another club high to set up a long club in dummy.

After drawing the last trump, declarer crosses to the ace of hearts and discards his losing diamond on the established club. Now that wasn't too difficult, was it?

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After drawing the last trump, declarer crosses to the ace of hearts and discards his losing diamond on the established club. Now that wasn't too difficult, was it?

THE BETTER HALF

By Harris

HARRIS 12-26



JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

LASIE

CHACO

GERROF

SUREDS

THAT SCRABLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

There'll be others who will have the real power

WHAT THAT MATH WHIZ WHO ROSE TO THE TOP OF THE FIRM ENDED UP AS.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

ANSWER: THE

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumble: THINK - VIXEN, MYSELF, SAFARI
Answer: What the fisherman's gross income was — SAME AS HIS "NET."

SPORTS IN BRIEF

African World Cup qualifiers

PARIS (AP) — The Ivory Coast, Morocco and Zaire posted victories Sunday in African group World Cup elimination matches in early competition to decide the continent's qualifiers. The Ivory Coast beat Libya, 1-0, with the help of a goal by Sekou Bamba in the 79th minute at Abidjan in a group A contest. Algeria also has a victory in the four-country group, beating Zimbabwe, 3-0, Friday at Annaba. Morocco edged Zambia, 1-0, at Rabat on a goal by Fes Fettah in the 39th minute in a group D encounter. Also in a group D match, Zaire blasted Tunisia, 3-1, with striker Kabongo Nguo scoring two goals in front of 90,000 fans at the 20th of May stadium in Kinshasa.

Robson out of hospital

LONDON (R) — England and Manchester United soccer captain Bryan Robson was discharged from hospital Monday after being knocked unconscious in the Football Association (F.A.) Cup match against Queen's Park Rangers Saturday. Robson was concussed and swallowed his tongue after a collision with a defender in the 89th minute of the goalless third round tie. He was taken to hospital for x-rays on head and shoulder injuries. The tests showed no broken bones. United manager Alex Ferguson said: "There is no problem with his shoulder but he has some chest bruising. It's just a matter of resting him now. "We shall take advice to make certain he is okay after the concussion and of swallowing his tongue." Robson is out of Wednesday's replay but may be fit for Saturday's league match against Millwall.

Bills beat themselves up

CINCINNATI (R) — The Buffalo Bills, reeling from a defeat to the Cincinnati Bengals that kept them out of the Super Bowl, brawled among themselves following the American Football Conference (AFC) final Sunday. The Bills' bickering turned physical after offensive tackle Joe Devlin cursed at cornerback Derrick Burroughs, who had been ejected from the game after committing a costly penalty that led to Cincinnati's last touchdown. Devlin rushed at Burroughs and was physically restrained by defensive back Errol Tucker. Other members of the team joined in the pushing, shoving and cursing and the room was cleared of all media less than five minutes after the game.

Worldbeating waterpolo coach resigns

BELGRADE (R) — Yugoslav water polo coach Ratko Rudic, who has led the national team to two Olympic titles and a world championship in the past five years, has resigned. "I'm tired of my highly-stressed life as national team coach," Rudic told Reuters Monday. "I want to rest a bit and maybe in the future I shall come back," he said. Rudic, 40, led Yugoslavia to Olympic gold in Los Angeles in 1984 and Seoul in 1988 and the world title in Madrid in 1986. He was capped 290 times as a player in the 1970s and became national coach in 1984. Rudic said he planned to return to coach Partizan Belgrade, 16 times national champions and the club he played for before becoming a coach.

Coe makes British team for Europe

LONDON (R) — Twice Olympic 1,500 metres champion Sebastian Coe, omitted from the British team for last year's Seoul Olympics, has been selected to run in the European Indoor Athletics Championships in the Hague, Netherlands, on Feb. 18-19. Coe, 32, is among 13 British athletes pre-selected for the championships along with Olympic silver medalists Linford Christie and Colin Jackson. He will compete in the 800 metres, the distance at which he still holds the world outdoor record. Coe, Olympic 1,500 metres gold medalist in 1980 and 1984 and European 800 metres champion, plans one further year on the grand prix circuit before retiring to concentrate on a career in politics. Christie, second in the Seoul 100 metres, will take part in the 60 and 200 metres while Jackson will team up with fellow Olympic finalist Tony Jarrett in the high hurdles.

Giant-killing Sutton drawn against Norwich

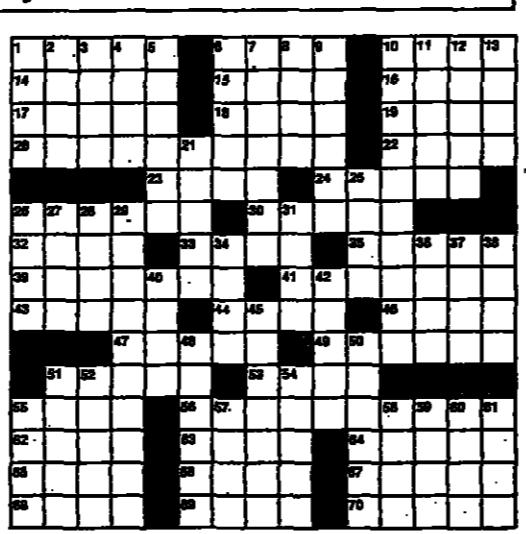
LONDON (R) — Minor-league Sutton United were handed a second F.A. cup giant-killing chance Monday when they were drawn against high-flying first division side Norwich City in the fourth round. Sutton, whose 2-1 home win over 1987 cup winners Coventry proved the sensation of Saturday's third round, travel to Norwich's Carrow road home for the Jan. 28 tie. Holders Wimbledon visit Aston Villa and favourites Liverpool go to Millwall in two all-first division confrontations. Sutton manager Barrie Williams was delighted with the draw, which pitched his side of part-timers against the club that led the first division for more than three months until New Year's Eve. "The fantasy continues," he said. "We always said the F.A. Cup was unreal but this is going beyond the realms of possibility. We regard it as an experience that we look forward to once again. It is just part and parcel of everyday life now. There is a little touch of unreality about it but that is what the cup is always about."

HOROSCOPE

NOT RECEIVED

THE Daily Crossword

by C. F. Murray



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Saturday's Puzzle Solvers:
ACROSS
1 Betrays
6 Religious image
10 Father
11 Model
15 Alone
16 Skip
17 "What's in?"
18 Falls behind
19 Highs
20 "With" —
22 Bassoon's Slaughter
23 Huge
24 Automaton
25 Heb. prophet
30 Bell town of fiction
32 Something to pump
33 Yarn
35 Not suited
36 Chivalrous one
41 Ape
43 Incline
44 Vortex
45 First place
46 Resident of Arak
48 Most recent, slowest
51 Poem source
55 Word of sorrow
58 Risky
59 Purchase
62 Fright
64 "Dinner d—" —
65 An area
66 Mariner's greeting
67 Close
68 Upper crust
69 Frank Herbert
70 Gift getter
71 Spuds and Sausage
72 Russ. see
73 — contenders
74 No way!
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Communist rebels consider peace talks

Philippine renegade on the run

ZAMBOANGA CITY (AP) — President Corazon Aquino said Monday the leader of rebel Muslim police who seized a military garrison and killed a general may have escaped.

A woman also claimed the renegade leader, patrolman Rizal Alib, held her and eight companions hostage briefly Sunday, one day after troops recaptured the regional headquarters of the Philippine constabulary. But a military spokesman disputed the woman's claim.

At least 21 people were killed before government troops, backed by helicopter gunships and tanks, recaptured the garrison late Saturday after two days of fighting.

On Monday, officials said they had identified the bodies of Brigadier-General Eduards Batalla and Colonel Romeo Abendan, who were held hostage during the takeover. Seven others also had been identified, but none was Alib.

"From the facts so far available, the AFP (Armed Forces of the Philippines) is unable to say that Alib may be among those casualties," Aquino told reporters in Manila. "It has ordered an all-out search for those who may have escaped through the cordon."

The military launched attacks

Friday after learning that Batalla and Abendan were held by their captors. No prisoners were taken, the military said.

Rose Laurente, a major's wife, said Alib and four of his men commandeered her vehicle early Sunday, forced her and eight companions to drive into town and then left them unharmed.

But military spokesman Lt.-Col. Anthony Elias disputed the claim and said the woman's husband, Major Romeo Laurente, was a business partner of Alib.

"We do not buy that story because we have no proof that he escaped," Elias said. "The reason why so many people want to make you believe that Alib is alive is so that his syndicate of extortion, which is widespread, can still be continued by some of his men."

Military authorities imposed an indefinite nighttime curfew in Zamboanga, which has a mixed Christian-Muslim population. There are about five million Muslims among the Philippines' 59 million people.

Alib was acquitted in the November 1984 slaying of Mayor

Cesar Climaco. But three weeks after Climaco's death, seven people were killed when marines raided Alib's home, and he still faced murder charges in those deaths.

Last month, Batalla received permission to arrest Alib. Military officials also claim Alib was ringleader of an extortion gang.

On Sunday, Aquino warned that police corruption was undermining respect for law and order.

Zain Jali, spiritual adviser of the Muslim rebel Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF), warned the siege and subsequent fighting may inflame sectarian tension.

"The line seems to be since a general was killed, there is now justification to kill all Muslims," Jali told the Philippine Daily Globe.

The front is the largest of three groups that have been waging a nearly 20-year-old struggle for an independent Islamic state in the south. This month, congress is to debate a bill to grant self-rule to Muslim areas in the south.

In Manila, Aquino said widespread corruption among the nation's police was undermining respect for law and order.

"It is said that the citizen's respect for the law depends to a great degree on the perceived credibility of lawmen," she said

result of the election.

Premadasa, the incumbent prime minister, won the Dec. 19 poll with 50.43 per cent of the votes against Bandaranaike's 44.95 per cent.

Voting was marred by killings of two senior election officials and supporters of political parties and attacks on polling centres.

Officials said only 55 per cent of the 9.4 million voters cast their ballots because the Marxist People's Liberation Front had

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There has been a voter turnout of more than 75 per cent at previous elections, they said.

Police blamed the polling day attacks on the front, a southern-based group of young radical Sinhalese trying to overthrow the government.

Bandaranaike, who is also contesting Feb. 15 parliamentary election, said in a 38-page petition that a majority of voters

were or may have been prevented from electing the candidate they preferred.

Her petition gave details of nearly 100 instances of alleged violations of election laws.

No date has been set for the inquiry.

The opposition leader said before the election that Premadasa would benefit from a low poll, particularly in the South where Bandaranaike enjoys wide support.

Angola and Cuba are surrounding the departure of the

possibility of new peace talks with Aquino's government nearly two years after the first round of negotiations collapsed.

The offer was made in an editorial in the December issue of Liberation, published by the outlawed National Democratic Front (NDF). Copies of the publication were made available to news organisations Monday.

In the editorial, the front said the government's "total war" against the unjust war against the masses of our people must be defeated. It accused the government of "wanton destruction of lives and property all over the country."

"Conscious of the heavy sacrifices borne by the people as a result of this 'total war' policy, the NDF declares its willingness to again explore with all sincerely interested parties the possibility of a comprehensive settlement of the political, economic, social and military issues underlying the armed conflict," it said.

In Manila, Aquino said widespread corruption among the nation's police was undermining respect for law and order.

"It is said that the citizen's respect for the law depends to a great degree on the perceived credibility of lawmen," she said

result of the election.

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first contingent with pomp and ceremony and Havana has sent a high-level delegation including more than a dozen generals and colonels, many of whom have served in Angola.

"We are going home victorious so we are going home happy," Cuban General Raul Menendez Tomasevich told reporters.

Cuban commanders say that Cuban and Angolan military superiority, boosted by high morale and sophisticated Soviet arms, helped to force a South African withdrawal from Southern Angola late in 1988 and the subsequent peace accords.

The 450, some of whom were

being decorated at a separate ceremony Monday, are part of a group of 3,000 troops that Cuba has agreed to pull out of Angola by April 1.

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